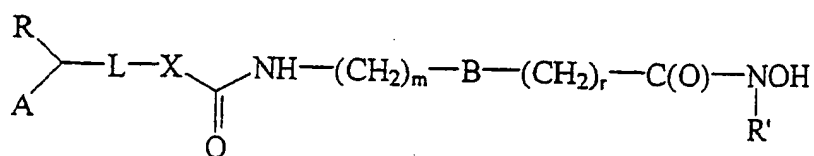


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-17 (cancelled).

18 (new). Compounds of formula (I):



(I)

in which:

R is hydrogen, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl or phenyl;

R' is hydrogen or C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl;

A is phenyl substituted with one or more groups selected from: alkoxy, nitro, perfluoroalkyl, phenoxy, phenyl, phenylalkoxy, benzoyloxy, and thioalkoxy;

L is a chain of from 1 to 5 carbon atoms optionally containing a double bond or an NR' group in which R' is as defined above, or it is absent;

X is absent;

r and m are, independently, 0, 1 or 2;

B is phenyl.

19 (new). Compounds according to claim 18 in which R is hydrogen.

20 (new). Compounds according to claim 18 in which R is methyl.

21 (new). Compounds according to claim 18 in which A is phenyl.

22 (new). Compounds according to claim 18 in which X is absent.

23 (new). Compounds according to claim 18 in which L is methylene or ethylene.

24 (new). Compounds according to claim 18 in which m and r are equal to zero.

25 (new). Compounds according to claim 18 in which B is phenyl.

26 (new). Compounds according to claim 18 in which R' is hydrogen.

27 (new). A compound selected from:

N-hydroxy-4-[2-(4-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-acetylamino]-benzamide;

N-hydroxy-4-(3-phenyl-butyrylamino)-benzamide;

N-hydroxy-4-[3-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-propionylamino]-benzamide;

N-hydroxy-4-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-acetylamino]-benzamide;

N-hydroxy-4-[2-(4-ethoxy-phenyl)-acetylamino]-benzamide;

N-hydroxy-4-[3-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-propionylamino]-benzamide;

N-hydroxy-4-[2-(3,4,5-trimethoxy-phenyl)-acetylamino]-benzamide;

N-hydroxy-4-[2-(4-methylsulphanil-phenyl)-acetylamino]-benzamide;

N-hydroxy-4-[2-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-acetylamino]-benzamide;

N-hydroxy-4-[2-(3-nitro-phenyl)-acetylamino]-benzamide;  
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(3-phenoxy-phenyl)-acetylamino]-benzamide;  
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(diphenyl-4-yl)-acetylamino]-benzamide;  
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(2,3-dimethoxy-phenyl)-acetylamino]-benzamide;  
2-[2-(4-hydroxycarbamoyl-phenylcarbamoyl)-ethyl]-phenyl ester of benzoic acid;  
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(4-nitro-phenyl)-acetylamino]-benzamide;  
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(2-phenoxy-phenyl)-acetylamino]-benzamide;  
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(4,5-dimethoxy-2-nitro-phenyl)-acetylamino]-benzamide;  
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(2-benzyloxy-phenyl)-acetylamino]-benzamide;  
N-hydroxy-4-[2-(2-nitro-phenyl)-acetylamino]-benzamide.

28 (new). A compound according to claim 27 which is N-hydroxy-4-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-acetylamino]-benzamide.

29 (new). Compounds of claim 18 for use as medicaments.

30 (new). Use of compounds of claim 18 for the preparation of medicaments with anti-inflammatory and/or auto-immune activity for the treatment of diseases such as spondyloarthropathy, rheumatoid arthritis, acute alcoholic hepatitis, inflammatory syndromes of the intestine (Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis), asthma, diabetes, heart failure, intracerebral hemorrhage, psoriasis, atopic dermatitis, contact dermatitis, glomerulonephritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, chronic pulmonary obstruction, pulmonary fibrosis, multiple sclerosis, sepsis, septic shock, etc.

31 (new). Use of the compounds of claim 18 for the preparation of medicaments for the treatment of tumorous and/or neurodegenerative diseases.

32 (new). Use of the compounds of claim 18 and at least one active ingredient with anti-tumour action for the preparation of medicaments for the treatment of tumorous and neurodegenerative diseases.

33 (new). Pharmaceutical compositions containing the compounds of claim 18 mixed with suitable excipients and/or vehicles.

34 (new). Pharmaceutical compositions containing the compounds of claim 18 and at least one active ingredient with anti-tumour action mixed with suitable excipients and/or vehicles.